

**FURZE
PLATT**
SENIOR SCHOOL



SIXTH FORM TASTER DAYS 2026

Extended Project Qualification
Course Taster Session and Introduction

Starter Activity

Split yourself into 2 teams of equal size.

You have 10 minutes to prepare an argument for or against the following statement:

“British politics in the 2020’s is more ethically conscious than it was at the start of the 20th century (1900 – 1920).”

Success Criteria:

- An articulate, considered argument
- Reference to credible research / sources
- How reflective your **process** is – not just the final result
- How well you evaluate your argument (we’ll do this at the end!)

The EPQ...

How much do you already know?

Decide which answers on the following slides are true and which are false.

Feel free to discuss...

True or False

Statement	Answer and explanation
1. I can choose what I do for my Extended Project.	
2. I will have an exam at the end of the year.	
3. I will have to do some sort of presentation at the end of the project.	
4. I will develop important skills.	
5. Only an individual can complete an Extended Project.	
6. I won't have a teacher.	

True or False

7. I have to write a dissertation.

8. Doing an Extended Project will develop my confidence.

9. If things go wrong I will be marked down.

10. I will be assessed on planning and time management, using resources, and developing an idea.

11. I can decide when I want to spend more time on my project.

12. It won't help my other subjects.

True or False

13. It will help me get a job.	
14. An Extended Project is an easy option.	
15. I must already have studied my chosen topic.	
16. Good IT skills will be an asset.	
17. The Extended Project is not worth any UCAS points.	
18. The highest grade I can achieve is an A.	

EPQ Overview – what is it?

The EPQ is a development of one of your personal areas of interest or and extension of one or more of your areas of study outside the main programme of study.

**Dual accreditation
– careful!!!**

**This is why it's
called the
*Extended Project***

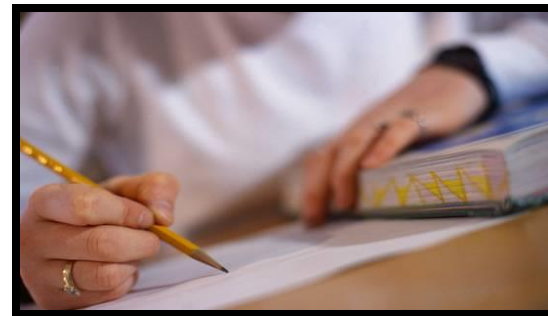
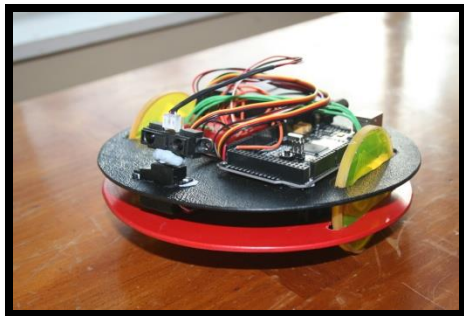
EPQ Overview – what am I required to do?

Students are required, with appropriate supervision, to:

- Choose an area of interest
- Draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval by the Supervisor & Coordinator
- Plan, research and carry out the project
- Deliver a presentation to a non-specialist audience
- Provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment
- Write up your project in a formal academic report

Project reports

Students undertaking an EPQ can submit either a research-based written report of **around 5000 words** or can opt to produce a practical project or 'artefact' with an accompanying research-based written report of **at least 1000 words**.



What is an Artefact?

- An artefact can be a physical outcome such as a **book** or a **short film** or it can be a **presentation** to a specific audience, a **play**, it could be an event such as a **fashion show** or a **musical evening**. In fact there is almost no limit to what can constitute an artefact, **as long as it has research at its core.**
- What all artefact projects have in common is that they **must have a clear research aim/purpose and be well evaluated.**
- Students who choose artefact projects must understand that the **planned research should form the largest part of their project** and that the production of the **artefact can only commence once this detailed and wide research is completed.** While the written report is shorter for artefact.

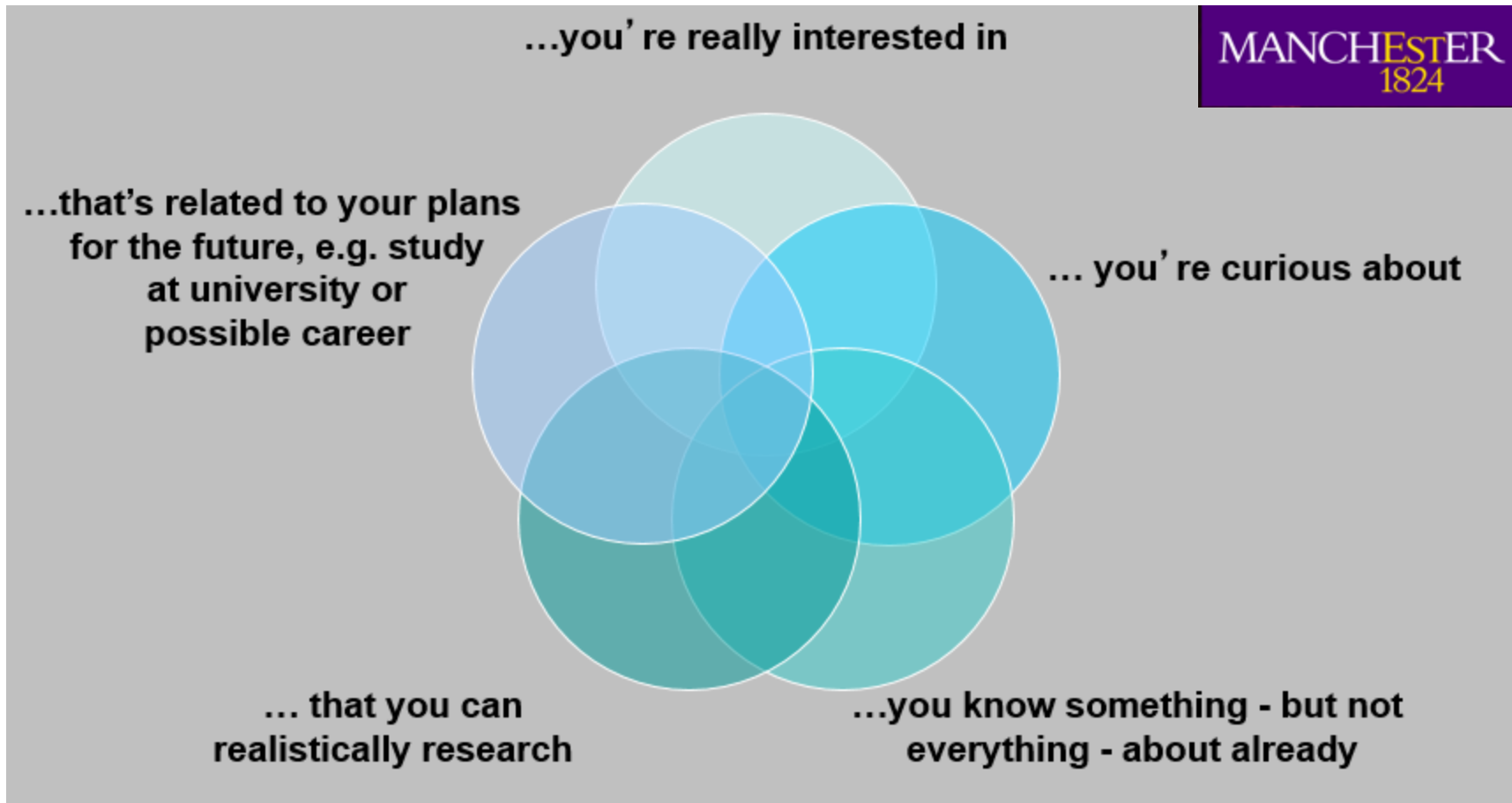
Project Qualifications offer opportunities for students to:

- Develop and improve their own learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent students
- Develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills
- Extend their planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills
- Develop and apply skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise
- Use their learning experiences to support their aspirations for further study and/or career development
- Transfer skills developed as part of their project to other areas of study

Discussion Task

- Why do you, personally want to complete an EPQ?
- Take a minute and list your reasons for taking the qualification...

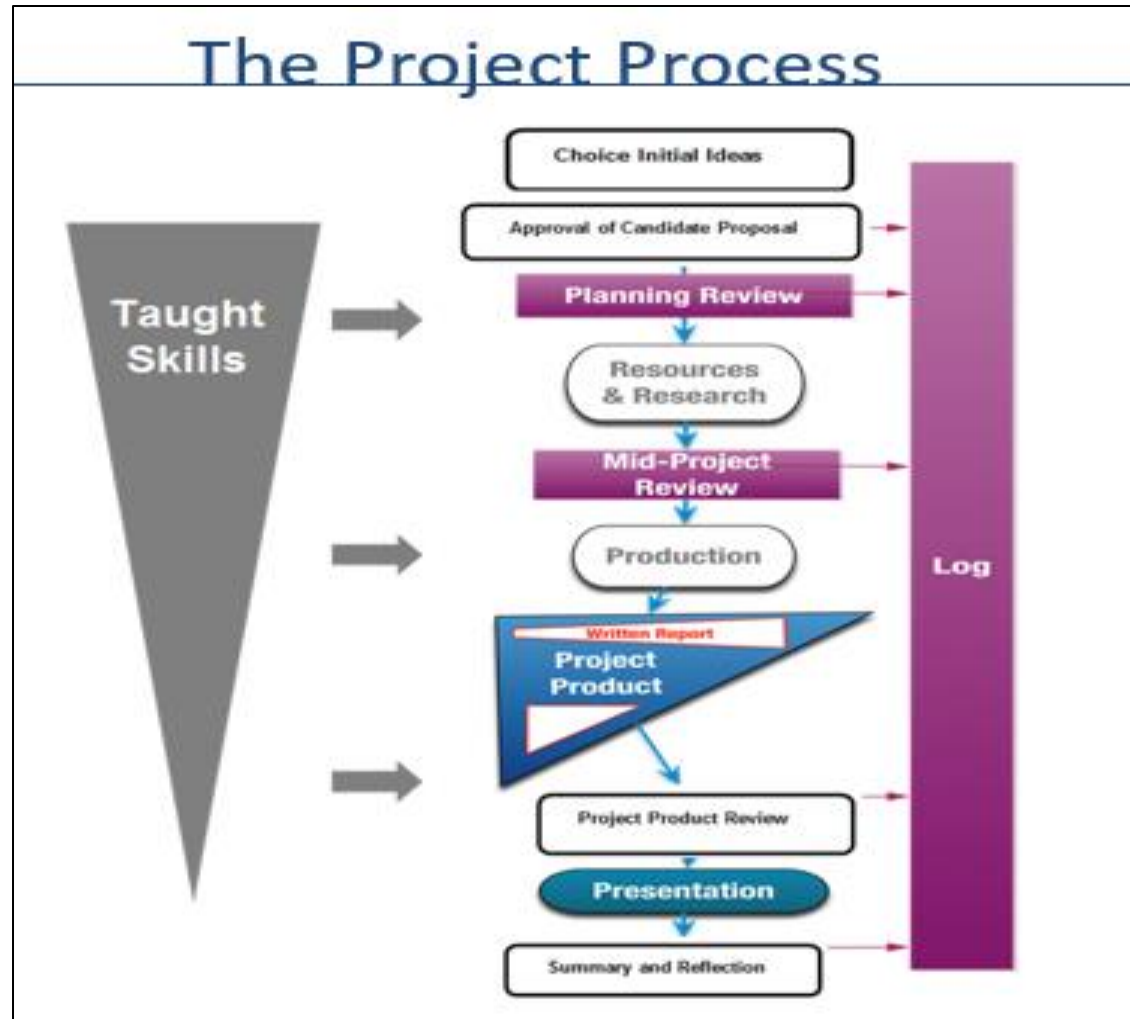
Is it something that...



So how is the EPQ done?

Skills you will be taught:

- Time management skills
- Research skills and evaluation of sources
- Report writing skills
- Referencing and bibliography creation
- How to avoid plagiarism
- Presentation and ICT skills
- Reflection and evaluation
- Research ethics



Time scale & Deadlines

- Regular timetabled meetings with Supervisors start in September and run through out Year 12.

N.B. (these are not real dates, but just for demonstration purposes):

- 14/12/26 – Title agreed and signed off by supervisor & co-ordinator. (Working title - can change!!)
- 01/03/27 – Project research completed.
- 26/04/27 – Mid-Term Review completed with your supervisor.
- 06/07/27 – Product finished.
- **13/09/27 – Presentations week.**
- **20/09/27 – Project hand in deadline.**
- **02/10/27 – Names submitted to AQA exam board.**
- **11/10/27 – Marking deadline for supervisors.**
- **01/11/27 – Submission to AQA exam board.**

What is the Production Log?

- The record of your journey through the project process.
- Not an admin document but provides the **‘backbone’ of your project.**
- The Production Log is **completed as you go.**
- The Project Qualifications are **process-based** qualifications. The outcome (essay, artefact, production) is important but the **Production Log is just as important.** It charts the student’s progress from initial ideas, through their research to their final outcome and evaluation.

Assessment Objectives

	Assessment Objectives	Weighting
AO1	<p>Manage</p> <p>Identify, design, plan, and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.</p>	20%
AO2	<p>Use Resources</p> <p>Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.</p>	20%
AO3	<p>Develop and Realise</p> <p>Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem-solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.</p>	40%
AO4	<p>Review</p> <p>Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.</p>	20%

Production Log Sections

Candidate Record Form

Similar to Student Record Forms for all coursework, this should be completed by the student at the end of the process. It confirms that the work they are submitting is their own.

Submission checklist

This is just an **aide memoir for the Supervisor** to complete before submitting a project to AQA.

Record of marks

This is where **supervisors record the final marks** awarded to students along with any comments on the final project. There is also space here for recording the details of the Taught Skills programme.

Contents

To be completed by the student. They record their working title at the start of their research at the top of the page and log when each element is completed. At the bottom of the page there is a space for them to record their final title.

Production Log Sections

Record of initial ideas

It is ok if students have more than one idea for their project at the beginning of the process. If students complete more than one version of this page, it is acceptable for them to submit these additional pages. (However, their production log should make clear the reasons for taking one idea forward over others.)

Part A: Candidate Proposal

This page is to be completed by the student. They should be encouraged to be as clear and detailed as possible when discussing the types of research they plan to undertake; we are expecting more detail than 'I will read books and look on the internet'. This is also where students record what other courses they are undertaking. Please note that whilst students might be inspired to look more deeply into a topic they have touched on during another area of study, they should be looking to extend and develop away from those core areas of study. This is particularly true at Level 3 (EPQ).

Part B: Supervisor's comments on Candidate Proposal

This is to be completed by the Supervisor. Here you will comment on the suitability of a working title and whether a student's research plan is feasible. You will also indicate whether the student is working as part of a group and what form the final product will take (essay, artefact etc.).

Production Log Sections

Part C: Centre Coordinator's approval of Candidate Proposal

Completed by the Centre Coordinator who gives the final approval for a project to go ahead.

Planning Review

Opportunity to map out their next steps. They will be able to chart their progress against this plan. Some students use Gantt charts or other time management tools to help with the management of their projects. These can be handy tools when used effectively but they aren't necessary for a successful project – students can use the production log to plot and chart their progress against their aims.

Mid-Project Review

By this stage the student's title should be finalised. They will have undertaken most of their research by this point and will be ready to start producing their outcome.

Production Log Sections

Project Product Review

Opportunity to measure how well they have managed the project process since the Mid-Project Review. Students should be reminded of the necessity of recording their own monitoring processes – have they reached the goals they set themselves/met their own deadlines. The Supervisor may have some more comments or points that the student could choose to incorporate in their product at this stage.

Presentation Record Part A

Opportunity for the student to outline what form their presentation will take, who will be there, the content of their presentation and any changes they make as a result of a discussion with their supervisor after a rehearsal. See the Quick Guide to the Presentation for more information on this important aspect of the Project Qualifications.

Presentation Record Part B

This is completed by the Supervisor. In order for AQA moderators to support the marks you award as a result of the presentation, a record must be made which supports those marks.

Summary and Reflection

Students should provide an abstract/brief outline of their product. There are a number of online resources on how to write an effective abstract which could form part of the Taught Skills programme. Simply type “How to write an abstract” into your favourite search engine and find the guide that will be most appropriate for your students.

Project Q, Project Q, Project Q!!!!

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Designed and Developed by 

What is Project Q?

Project Q is a complete digital package to help you manage your project from start to finish.

<http://www.projectq.co/support/students>

[Watch 6 minute introductory video](#)

Through this platform, you can explore resources, write your production log sections, receive advice from your supervisor and manage the deadlines of your project.

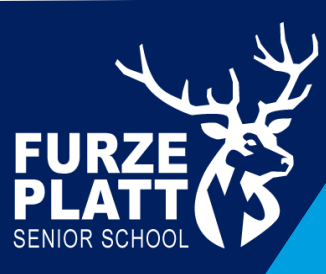
It's superb!

Some summer homework...

[View past exemplar of a student's log and essay \(this is from a previous version of this specification but is a great example\)](#)

Have a look at the following MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses):

- <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/epq-success>
- <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/research-project>



Thanks for listening!

Any questions?